

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 659**  
**Asked on 25 May 2021**

**MR M BERKMAN** ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

With reference to children aged 10-17 years old detained in police watch houses in Queensland — Will the Minister advise from December 2020 to present (reported separately by month and by facility/location) (a) how many 10-17 year old children were detained in police watch houses in this period, (b) how many of these children were Indigenous, (c) how many were remanded for indictable-only offences, (d) how many were under 14 years old, (e) how many were or are currently subject to child protection orders, (f) how many were detained in a watch house for (i) 1 night (ii) 2-6 nights (iii) 7+ nights (iv) a weekend and (g) what was the longest period of time a child was detained in a police watch house?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that data on the number of juveniles who were or are currently subject to child protection orders is held by Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs.

I am also advised by the QPS of concerns with the other parts of the question as the data requested contains sensitive information relating to juveniles. I am also advised that to protect the anonymity of individuals a level of confidentialisation has been applied to the data. Cells with values between 1 and 5 have been identified as “≤5”.

I am further advised by the QPS that the response to the other parts of the question is detailed below, for the time period from December 2020 to 25 May 2021:

a)

Watchhouse	Number of Persons					
	2020	2021				
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (1 May to 25 May)
Beenleigh Watchhouse	12	23	15	17	20	8
Brisbane Watchhouse	58	56	66	61	46	58
Bundaberg Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	6	≤ 5	7	≤ 5
Caboolture Watchhouse	-	-	-	-	≤ 5	-
Cairns Watchhouse	29	53	50	56	66	77
Caloundra Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	-	-
Charleville Watchhouse	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Cleveland Watchhouse	≤ 5	7	≤ 5	9	7	6
Coolangatta Watchhouse	-	-	-	-	≤ 5	-
Cunnamulla Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Dalby Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Emerald Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	-	-
Gladstone Watchhouse	≤ 5	9	10	8	≤ 5	≤ 5
Gympie Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Hervey Bay Watchhouse	6	8	6	≤ 5	8	≤ 5
Innisfail Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	6	≤ 5	≤ 5
Ipswich District Watchhouse	35	26	30	39	29	31
Kingaroy Watchhouse	≤ 5	10	8	7	≤ 5	12
Mackay Watchhouse	6	≤ 5	≤ 5	7	10	6
Mareeba Watchhouse	≤ 5	12	10	≤ 5	≤ 5	9
Maroochydore Watchhouse	17	14	19	12	10	8
Maryborough Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Mornington Island Watchhouse	9	≤ 5	≤ 5	8	≤ 5	-
Mount Isa Watchhouse	26	20	26	23	18	23
Murgon Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5
Noosa Heads Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5
Pine Rivers Watchhouse	10	26	10	13	14	15
Redcliffe Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	10	8	9	11
Richlands Watchhouse	26	18	24	28	28	24
Rockhampton Watchhouse	30	30	22	20	23	12
Roma Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	7	≤ 5	-
Sandgate Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	≤ 5
Southport Watchhouse	64	46	63	65	58	60
Toowoomba Watchhouse	32	33	27	22	34	19
Townsville Watchhouse	55	44	48	47	44	49
Warwick Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	-
Whitsunday Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	-	-
Wynnum Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5

Notes:

1. This data is preliminary and may be subject to change.
2. Data relates to persons in custody in police watchhouses for any reason aged between 10 and 17 at the custody start time.
3. Police watchhouses are those where the organisational unit name contains 'Watchhouse' and are based on the latest detention unit a person was in.
4. Number of persons refers to a unique count of persons in the breakdown and is based on the time the person started custody.
5. A person with multiple custody reports during the period will be counted once in the breakdown.
6. Data for May 2021 is for the period between 1 May 2021 00:00 and 25 May 2021 23:59.
7. Only persons whose age have been identified has been shown.

b)

Watchhouse	Number of Persons					
	2020	2021				
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (1 May to 25 May)
Beenleigh Watchhouse	11	15	9	7	11	≤ 5
Brisbane Watchhouse	34	40	44	38	26	45
Bundaberg Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Caboolture Watchhouse	-	-	-	-	≤ 5	-
Cairns Watchhouse	26	50	48	54	64	75
Charleville Watchhouse	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Cleveland Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Cunnamulla Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Dalby Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Emerald Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	-	-
Gladstone Watchhouse	-	6	8	7	-	≤ 5
Gympie Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	-	≤ 5	-
Hervey Bay Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	6	≤ 5
Innisfail Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	6	≤ 5	≤ 5
Ipswich District Watchhouse	21	19	20	21	15	18
Kingaroy Watchhouse	≤ 5	7	7	6	≤ 5	11
Mackay Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	8	≤ 5
Mareeba Watchhouse	≤ 5	12	10	≤ 5	≤ 5	9
Maroochydore Watchhouse	11	7	10	6	6	≤ 5
Maryborough Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Mornington Island Watchhouse	9	≤ 5	≤ 5	8	≤ 5	-
Mount Isa Watchhouse	26	20	26	23	17	23
Murgon Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5
Noosa Heads Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	-	≤ 5
Pine Rivers Watchhouse	7	13	≤ 5	7	8	8
Redcliffe Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	8	≤ 5	≤ 5	7
Richlands Watchhouse	14	10	16	18	13	11
Rockhampton Watchhouse	29	28	22	20	21	12
Roma Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	7	≤ 5	-
Sandgate Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	-	≤ 5
Southport Watchhouse	26	23	24	22	14	21
Toowoomba Watchhouse	26	24	20	15	31	19
Townsville Watchhouse	52	41	46	45	42	44
Warwick Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	-
Whitsunday Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	-	-	-	-
Wynnum Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5

Notes:

1. This data is preliminary and may be subject to change.
2. Data relates to persons in custody in police watchhouses for any reason aged between 10 and 17 at the custody start time and the person has self-identified as indigenous.
3. Police watchhouses are those where the organisational unit name contains 'Watchhouse' and are based on the latest detention unit a person was in.
4. Number of persons refers to a unique count of persons in the breakdown and is based on the time the person started custody.  
A person with multiple custody reports during the period will be counted once in the breakdown.
5. Data for May 2021 is for the period between 1 May 2021 00:00 and 25 May 2021 23:59.
6. Only persons whose age and indigenous status have been identified has been shown.

c)

Watchhouse	Number of Persons					
	2020	2021				
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (1 May to 25 May)
Beenleigh Watchhouse	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	-
Brisbane Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	≤ 5
Cairns Watchhouse	-	6	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	9
Cleveland Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	-	-
Dalby Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	-	-
Ipswich District Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	≤ 5
Kingaroy Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	-	-
Mareeba Watchhouse	-	-	≤ 5	-	-	-
Maroochydore Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-
Mount Isa Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	6	6	≤ 5	6
Richlands Watchhouse	-	-	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	-
Rockhampton Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	-	-	≤ 5
Southport Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Toowoomba Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	≤ 5
Townsville Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	-
Wynnum Watchhouse	-	-	-	≤ 5	-	-

Notes:

1. This data is preliminary and may be subject to change.
2. Data relates to persons remanded in custody in police watchhouses for reason 'RIC' aged between 10 and 17 at the custody start time.
3. Police watchhouses are those where the organisational unit name contains 'Watchhouse' and are based on the latest detention unit a person was in.
4. Number of persons refers to a unique count of persons in the breakdown and is based on the time the person started custody. A person with multiple custody reports during the period will be counted once in the breakdown.
5. Data for May 2021 is for the period between 1 May 2021 00:00 and 25 May 2021 23:59.
6. Only persons whose age and indigenous status have been identified has been shown.
7. Indictable only refers to charges linked to the arrest/custody report where all of the charges have been flagged as indictable. If a person was charged with 1 offence where the indictable flag is 'No', then the arrest is excluded.
8. The indictable count is of unique juveniles aged 10-17 years of age where they are remanded in custody and charged with an indictable offence.

d)

Watchhouse	Number of Persons					
	2020	2021				
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (1 May to 25 May)
Beenleigh Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	6	7	≤ 5	≤ 5
Brisbane Watchhouse	17	19	19	24	10	18
Bundaberg Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5
Caboolture Watchhouse	-	-	-	-	≤ 5	-
Cairns Watchhouse	17	21	28	29	30	37
Caloundra Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	-	-
Charleville Watchhouse	-	-	-	-	≤ 5	-
Cleveland Watchhouse	-	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Cunnamulla Watchhouse	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	-
Dalby Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	-	-	≤ 5
Gladstone Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	-
Hervey Bay Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Innisfail Watchhouse	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Ipswich District Watchhouse	9	7	≤ 5	12	15	7
Kingaroy Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	6
Mackay Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	-	-	≤ 5	-
Mareeba Watchhouse	≤ 5	9	7	≤ 5	≤ 5	7
Maroochydore Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Maryborough Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Mornington Island Watchhouse	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	-
Mount Isa Watchhouse	13	11	11	16	7	7
Murgon Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	≤ 5	≤ 5
Pine Rivers Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5
Redcliffe Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-	≤ 5
Richlands Watchhouse	7	7	9	7	≤ 5	8
Rockhampton Watchhouse	9	11	≤ 5	6	≤ 5	≤ 5
Roma Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	-
Sandgate Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	-	-	-	≤ 5
Southport Watchhouse	25	15	15	17	32	20
Toowoomba Watchhouse	10	11	7	6	11	8
Townsville Watchhouse	22	14	15	21	20	14
Warwick Watchhouse	≤ 5	-	-	-	-	-
Wynnum Watchhouse	-	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	≤ 5	-

Notes:

1. This data is preliminary and may be subject to change.
2. Data relates to persons in custody in police watchhouses for any reason aged between 10 and 14 at the custody start time.
3. Police watchhouses are those where the organisational unit name contains 'Watchhouse' and are based on the latest detention unit a person was in.
4. Number of persons refers to a unique count of persons in the breakdown and is based on the time the person started custody.
5. A person with multiple custody reports during the period will be counted once in the breakdown.
6. Data for May 2021 is for the period between 1 May 2021 00:00 and 25 May 2021 23:59.
7. Only persons whose age have been identified has been shown.

f)

Watchhouse	Number of Persons																							
	1 Night						2 to 6 Nights						7+ Nights						A weekend					
	2020		2021				2020		2021				2020		2021				2020		2021			
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (1 May to 25 May)	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (1 May to 25 May)	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (1 May to 25 May)	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (1 May to 25 May)
Beenleigh Watchhouse	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5
Brisbane Watchhouse	14	19	16	19	12	16	-	-	8	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	≤5	-	-	13	22	21	28	15	26
Bundaberg Watchhouse	-	≤5	≤5	-	-	≤5	-	-	-	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5
Cairns Watchhouse	10	13	14	19	19	25	6	11	15	10	12	20	-	-	≤5	-	-	-	15	19	21	24	34	28
Charleville Watchhouse	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	-	-
Cleveland Watchhouse	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5
Coolangatta Watchhouse	-	-	-	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	-
Cunnamulla Watchhouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5
Dalby Watchhouse	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5
Gladstone Watchhouse	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-
Gympie Watchhouse	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-
Hervey Bay Watchhouse	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5
Innisfail Watchhouse	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	-	≤5	-	≤5	-
Ipswich District Watchhouse	8	≤5	≤5	12	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	8	10	8	8	12
Kingaroy Watchhouse	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5
Mackay Watchhouse	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5
Mareeba Watchhouse	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-
Maroochydore Watchhouse	≤5	7	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	7	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	10	≤5	≤5	≤5
Maryborough Watchhouse	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5
Mornington Island Watchhouse	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-
Mount Isa Watchhouse	≤5	≤5	7	≤5	7	≤5	13	10	14	13	10	11	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	11	16	13	10	≤5	13
Murgon Watchhouse	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	-	-	≤5	-
Noosa Heads Watchhouse	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Rivers Watchhouse	-	≤5	-	-	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	10	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5
Redcliffe Watchhouse	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5
Richlands Watchhouse	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	12	≤5	9	8
Rockhampton Watchhouse	8	9	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	6	≤5	≤5	≤5	6	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	12	9	8	8	7
Roma Watchhouse	-	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-
Southport Watchhouse	11	19	27	33	21	23	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	23	26	30	22	29
Toowoomba Watchhouse	14	8	14	7	14	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	18	15	≤5	11	10
Townsville Watchhouse	16	12	11	13	10	10	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	25	11	16	17	10
Warwick Watchhouse	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wynnum Watchhouse	-	≤5	-	≤5	≤5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notes:

- This data is preliminary and may be subject to change.
- Data relates to persons in custody in police watchhouses for any reason aged between 10 and 17 at the custody start time.
- Police watchhouses are those where the organisational unit name contains 'Watchhouse' and are based on the latest detention unit a person was in.
- Number of persons refers to a unique count of persons in the breakdown and is based on the time the person started custody.  
A person with multiple custody reports during the period will be counted once in the breakdown.
- Data for May 2021 is for the period between 1 May 2021 00:00 and 25 May 2021 23:59.
- Only persons whose age have been identified has been shown.
- One night, 2 to 6 nights, 7+ nights are calculated based on the number of days between the custody start date and custody end date.
- Weekend refers to persons in custody at any time on a Saturday or Sunday.
- One night refers to persons in custody for 6+ hours but less than 48 hours.

g) I am advised that 208 hours was the longest period of time a juvenile was detained in a watch house. During the period from December 2020 to 25 May 2021, 63% of juveniles detained were in custody in a watchhouse for less than 6 hours and 89% were in custody in a watchhouse for one night or less.

Notes:

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2. Data relates to persons in custody in police watchhouses for any reason aged between 10 and 17 at the custody start time.
3. Police watchhouses are those where the organisational unit name contains "Watchhouse" and are based on the latest detention unit a person was in.
4. Only persons whose age have been identified has been shown.
5. One night refers to persons in custody for 6+ hours but less than 48 hours.